GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5258
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
PLASTIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Rijiju Shri Kiren

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

l) whether the Government has set up Plastic Development Council;

m) if so, the details thereof;

n) the average per-capita consumption of plastics,synthetic fibres in Kilogrammes every year;

o) whether the Government has decided to increase the said per-capita consumption;

p) if so, whether the damage likely to be caused to the environment has also been kept in mind; and

q) if so, the action taken / proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K.HANDIQUE)

(a)&(b): The proposal to set up Plastic Development Council under ID&R Act, 1951 is under the consideration of Government.

(c): The per-capita consumption of plastics in India is around 4.5 kgs and Synthetic Fibres is about 1.8 kgs.

(d): Government proposes to encourage the per capita consumption of polymer from present level.

(e)&(f): The plastics,in general are chemically inert substances.Most of the plastics are re-processable and recyclable in nature. They are `per seJ not harmful to the environment. It is the indiscriminate littering of plastic material. Even among plastics the major problem relates to the littering of plastic carry bags. The Central Government as well as various State Governments have issued Notifications restricting use of carry bags having thickness of less than of 20 micron for storing, carrying, dispensing or packaging of food stuffs. In addition, Ministry of Environment & Forests have also issued Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000 for collection, segregation and disposal of municipal solid waste.